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Prime Minister Mike Eman and Minister Mike de Meza say farewell to Jan Peter Balkenende



Recently, ex Dutch Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende took his retirement from the political arena. From now on he will work in the private sector.

During a farewell party in his honor, invited guests wished Mr. Balkenende and his wife all the best in their future endeavor.

Aruba Prime Minister Mike Eman and Minister of Finance, Communications, Utilities and Energy Mike de Meza were among the invited guests together with ex Prime Minister of the Netherlands Antilles Emily de Jong Elhage.

During the event the positive relationship between Mr. Eman, Mrs. de Jong Elhage and Mr. Balkenende stood out, a result of the constructive cooperation of the last years.

The two ministers also had sociable encounters with other prominent Dutch politicians.

Photos show some moments during the entertaining event in honor of Jan Peter Balkenende.

Stern's Campaign 'Chevrolet Toys For Joy' present at the Women's Expo on November 26, 27, and 28

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Stern has launched its Christmas campaign, called "Chevrolet Toys for Joy." For every purchase of a gift worth Afl. 20,- or more at one of their 20 stores and establishments, clients receive a ticket to participate in a raffle. First prize is a Chevrolet Spark 2011, sec-

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Continued on page 5



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MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

UN forces chief seeks to reassure Haiti vote will be calm

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AFP) - The head of UN forces in Haiti vowed yesterday that a weekend presidential vote will proceed in a "calm, peaceful" climate, in a nation hobbled by a devastating earthquake and cholera epidemic.

Campaigning has been marred by deadly clashes between rival political factions and by anti-UN riots over the growing cholera outbreak, that have raised fears of wider unrest as well as widespread corruption.

"The Haitian climate is calm, peaceful, serene and without violence," said Edmond Mulet, head of the mission known as Minustah in the desperately poor Caribbean country.

"There were two deaths two



Supporters of presidential candidate Jude Celestine take part in a rally in Port-au-Prince

days ago, there was friction but a lot less than the country saw in the past. There will be blunders, dirty tricks, but there will be less than in the past," Mulet told a news conference.

Nineteen candidates were registered for the presidential vote, after at least one stepped

down, Mulet said.

Leading the race to succeed President Rene Preval are Jude Celestin, the ruling party candidate backed by Preval, and Mirlande Manigat, an opposition leader and former first lady who has a clear lead in opinion polls.

Capable of a surprise upset is Michel Martelly, a 49-year-old singer of Haitian kompa music affectionately known as "Sweet Micky" and popular with the urban masses in the capital Port-au-Prince.

No candidate is expected to pass the 50 percent threshold needed for an outright victory and results may not be known until early December. Two of the front-runners will probably make it through to a January 16 run-off, but nothing is sure in Haiti's uncertain political arena.

Toll from Brazil crackdown jumps seven to 30

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AFP) - A police crackdown on drug violence in Rio de Janeiro's sprawling slums has killed seven more people, bringing the total to 30, police said yesterday.

"The operation left seven dead and an unspecified number of weapons and drugs were seized," a police spokesman told AFP, adding that the num-

Dutch issue warrant for Nazi war criminal living in Germany

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands (AFP) - Prosecutors in the Netherlands said yesterday they had issued a European arrest warrant for a convicted Nazi war criminal living in Germany since escaping from a Dutch prison six decades ago.

Tineke Zwart, a spokeswoman for the prosecution service in the eastern town of Zwolle, said it was a "last attempt" to secure the extradition of 88-year-old Dutch-born Klaas Carel Faber.

Two previous demands for his extradition, in 1954 and 2004, were rejected by German courts, she said. He was tried by another German court in 1957 and acquitted, Zwart added.

Faber was sentenced to death by a Dutch court in 1947 for murdering 22 Jews during World War II although this was later commuted to life imprisonment. He escaped from Breda prison in the western Netherlands in 1952 with six other former SS men and fled to Germany. He now lives in Ingolstadt in Bavaria.

Faber, who ranks third on the Simon Wiesenthal Center's list of wanted Nazis, served in a special SS unit in the Nazi-occupied Netherlands which killed Dutch civilians deemed

"anti-German" in reprisal for resistance attacks.

He worked for a year from 1943 to 1944 at the crematorium at the Westerbork transit camp, where Dutch schoolgirl Anne Frank was held following her arrest before being sent to Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in Germany, where she died.

The Israeli government has also been pressing for Faber to be brought to justice, and 150 Israeli lawyers signed a petition earlier this year demanding action.

However authorities in Bavaria said in August that without new evidence there was only a "theoretical" chance of reopening proceedings against Faber, after Israeli Justice Minister Yaakov Neeman asked his German counterpart to review his case.

Cuba temporarily suspends mail service to US

HAVANA, Cuba (AFP) - Cuba temporarily halted all mail service to the United States of packages weighing more than 453 grams (16 ounces) due to US measures to counter threats from bombs mailed from abroad, the post office said yesterday.

The measure was taken after the US Postal Service notified Cuba over "increased security measures concerning mail ... from every point of origin," the Cuban Mail Service (ECC) said in a statement printed in the local media.

Letters weighing less than 16 ounces however can still be mailed.

New rules on mailing heavier packages "will be communicated to the population at the appropriate time," the ECC said.

Direct mail between the United States and the communist island was interrupted in 1963, two years after Washington and Havana broke ties. Currently Cuban mail to the United States -- where 1.5 million people of Cuban origin live -- are routed through Mexico and Canada.

In September 2009 officials from both countries met for a first round of talks to re-establish a direct mail service.



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During Tripartite meeting on changes in the Labor Law

A consensus is reached to eliminate "On Call"



ORANJESTAD -- Recently, a tripartite group dealing with the changes in Labor Law – the Government, representatives of employers and employees – met to deliberate on the changes in the law.

The Aruba Central Bank, Department of Economic Affairs and the Chamber of Commerce listened in at the meeting.

The meeting was deemed very fruitful and important agreements were reached for the working class; their labor rights were the principal points of the meeting.

Minister of Transport, Labor and Tourism, Otmar

Oduber is paying much attention to the phenomenon "On Call" where the labor security of the employee is practically nonexistent. He always said that he wanted to eliminate this trend and now during the tripartite meeting, the employees and employers representatives together with the Government reached an agreement to eliminate it.

It not only causes insecurity for the employee but also represent an obstacle when going to a bank or financial institution for a loan. The employee cannot buy a house or a car.

It was agreed that if a person works for three consecu-

tive months for a minimum of 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month, he is automatically considered to have a labor contract for an indefinite period. This is totally contrary to what is happening now where a person can work for 48 hours a week for many years and still be considered a "On Call" employee.

In this way Minister Oduber is complying with his promise to introduce labor security to the working class, for them as well as for their families.

Taking into account all aspects regarding movement and sports

National Sports Council submits National Sports Plan to the Minister of sports



ORANJESTAD – "The plan is ready, now we must execute it." These are the words of Minister of Public Health and Sports, Richard Visser, after receiving the National Sports Plan from the National Sports Council. Minister Visser is an expert on obesity and he prepared a national plan to combat this problem. In his plan he dedicated special attention to

creating opportunities for the community to move more and eat healthy

The National Sports Council comprises 13 members of all sectors of the community, and has the task to implement - on short and long notice - a management plan for sports on Aruba. When designing the plan, the commission took into account all the aspects in the

sports areas, like health and education, in order to be more successful in the sports management on our island

The Council started working on this integral plan since September 16, and finished it last week when it was officially handed over to Minister Visser. According to Roy Mezas, when designing the plan many aspects were taken

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Teresita Center has a new, Christmassy look

SAN NICOLAS – Management of the Heart of San Nicolas, foundation that runs the Teresita Center, extends an invitation to the whole community in general and the citizens of San Nicolas in particular to an open house tonight, November 26 at 7:00 p.m.

During this event all present can admire the new paintjob and Christmas lights and decoration of the building. Attendees can also admire some beautiful Christmas centerpieces and other exclusive

Christmas decorations made by Mr. Mariano Bermudez.

Mgr. Luis Antonio Seco will also be present. There will be a presentation by Eltienne Yarzagaray and a gaita group of Filomena College MAVO and an exposition of natural health products and music.

Entrance is FREE and there is the opportunity to make reservations and inquiries for leasing of the hall. The hall has a capacity of approximately 250 persons, and can be used for all kinds of activities.



into account and personally he thinks that it will give a substantial push to the national sports management. He expressed his gratitude to Mrs. Gisela de Veer for her input and energy when designing the plan, and also to the 13 Council members for continuing ensuring that all different points

of the plan are taken into account.

Minister Visser expressed his satisfaction with the plan and assured them that he will study it in the days to follow, to open the New Year with a new sports management that must be applied for the following three years



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FantaSea at the Royal Plaza

In the mood for BBQ-discover where islanders go: Baby Back Ribs



Shawn thanks lonely planet for a great recommendation

Every town has this ideal location for a terrific restaurant, but eateries come and go because none quite gets the recipe right for good food and appealing price; Oranjestad had such a spot at the far end of its main street, and brother Merly and sister Joanne Kelly came up with the solution. The island ambiance allows diners to relax and watch as the world goes by, offering a window on local life.

Arubans love their barbecue, but so many places offer it, you better be sure you have the quality at the right price with appealing side dishes to compete. Baby Back Ribs has occupied this cute little corner for three years now, and is an unqualified success. Luncheon and dinner time you will see the locals lined up to either take home a serving stacked with a large selection of favorite regional dishes, such as Saté or the always popular standards of BBQ chicken or ribs.

Baby Back Ribs has been such a success it earned a spot in the Lonely Planet Caribbean Guide, which is

dedicated to finding those great out of the way places tourists rarely discover and offer an authentic taste of their destination. Kristina and Shawn arrived on a cruise ship all the way from Alaska and confirmed that searching out Baby Back Ribs was well worth the effort. They shared the restaurant's ample portion of succulent spare ribs and awarded it two thumbs up.

Aside from the regular menu, the eatery offers at least three specials per day; usually costing \$5.50 for a

regular portion and \$7 for the large, enough to feed two. They stay open late to cure a case of after disco munchies, and you can pre-order to take back to your timeshare or hotel room by calling 582-4410.


If you are planning a shopping trip to town, pencil it in as your lunch stop and be sure to order one of their great homemade sauces, such as Chimichuri Picante or Papaya Pica for an authentic taste of island cuisine.

by Rosalie Klein

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'Chevrolet Toys For Joy' ...

Continued from page 1



Stern has launched its Christmas campaign, called "Chevrolet Toys for Joy." For every purchase of a gift worth Afl. 20,- or more at one of their 20 stores and establishments, clients receive a ticket to participate in a raffle. First prize is a Chevrolet Spark 2011, second and third prize are an iPad and iPod respectively. The campaign is an initiative of Chevrolet and General Motors together with Stern with the aim to put smiles on the faces of our less fortunate children. The campaign is to stimulate the community to show their generosity and willingness to share during the holiday season.

This weekend, starting tonight, Stern's "Chevrolet Toys for Joy" will be present at the first Women's Expo at the Radisson Hotel ballroom. The dynamic team of Stern invites everyone to visit their booth of 'Chevrolet Toys for Joy,' which is situated just in front of the walkway. Stern also invites everyone to visit their beautifully decorated showroom for the Christmas season which exudes love and kindness. Clients visiting Stern are encouraged to go to the Wall of Joy and purchase a beautiful gift for donation, and so contribute to their campaign. At the same time customers get a ticket to participate in the raffle with the chance to win one of the aforementioned prizes.

If you are alone, with your family, colleagues or friends, you can also drop in at De Wit Boekhandel in the main

street or Bonita, next to Djispie's Place, Van Dorp Dakota or Aruba Post in San Nicolas and buy a gift for donation. Let's help, let's fill our hearts with the Christmas spirit and make our children happy. With a small gesture we all can contribute.

Stern would like to express his gratitude to the whole Aruba community for their support to this 2010 campaign. The drawing will be take place on December 18, 2010 at the Stern Showroom at Tanki Leendert at 11:00 a.m. in presence of a notary

All donated gifts will be distributed among the different organizations that help and support children, like FEPO, foundation for the hearing impaired; Sonrisa, home for special children; and Imeldahof and Casa Cuna, home for children of broken homes. There is also the opportunity to make the children happy via other official organizations, depending on the generosity of the general community. Stay tuned for more information via the media.

Stern Automotive Enterprises N.V. situated at Tanki Leendert 122 is the exclusive agent for Chevrolet. The auto dealer express to be very happy to give back to the community, so let's join and help ourselves and our future: our children.

For more information on this heart warming Christmas campaign readers may call Stern at tel. 582-3838 or contact them via their e-mail info@sterngm.com.

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Michael and Jeff honored at the ATA office



Recently, at the Aruba Tourism Aruba office, Michael Marsh and Jeff Pinkerton were honored as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorary title was bestowed on them for their 10 years of consecutive visit to our island. ATA rep Ricardo Croes handed them a beautiful certificate in gratitude of their love and loyalty to Aruba. The ceremony took place at the ATA offices in presence of Glenda and Maricel.

Sci-Tech

How mammals got big in a post-dinosaur world



WASHINGTON (AFP) — Free from competition from massive reptiles, mammals ate a lot and used their new size to stay warm and fend off predators, according to a global study released Thursday on how mammals grew after the extinction of the dinosaurs.

When dinosaurs roamed the Earth, the average size of mammals was rather small, ranging from the size of a baby rabbit to that of a beagle.

"When dinosaurs went extinct, maximum mammal size was between one and 10 kilograms (two to 22 pounds), in that size range," said researcher Jessica Theodor of the University of Calgary in Canada.

But it did not take long for mammals to start growing after the dinosaurs died out 65 million years ago, leaving loads of vegetation for others to eat, she explained.

"And 25 million years later we have mammals that are a thousand times bigger," she said, noting that they grew to up to a maximum of 17 tons.

Until then, quick-metabolizing mammals had to battle larger reptilian dinosaurs for food, and since there wasn't much to be had, the mammals never had a chance.

"Probably what was going on is that the things that they were eating were being eaten by the dinosaurs already so there was no way they could really break into that way of living."

Once the beasts died out, mammals surged. However, those gains leveled out about 40 million years ago and have not changed much since.

The research was funded by a US National Science Foundation grant, and brought together scientists from around the world to track how big mammals got across the globe and to analyze their patterns of growth as time passed.

Over the course of two years, they compiled a massive database of fossil records. Similar trends in mammal growth were seen on all continents.

"The database is powerful and unique," said John Gittleman of the University of Georgia, who was part of the team. "It includes information on the size of all mammals, living and fossil, from around the world."

Having the wealth of data, much derived from bones and tooth fossils which gave solid indicators of overall size, allowed researchers to learn about the science of being

big.

"There is strong selection pressure for herbivores to get really big," said Theodor. "Being big protects you from predation because very large herbivores do not get preyed on very much."

Also, living in a harshly cold climate is not such an issue of life and death once size begins to rise.

"Large mammals do not have to work so hard to stay warm, so cold climates tend to favor the evolution of large mammals," she added.

And more food is available to bigger mammals because their stomachs were larger and produced compounds that could break down tougher parts of trees and plants.

"There are some kinds of herbivory that are really only available to mammals if they are very large. The biggest herbivores tend to eat parts of plants that are not that nutritious. They use gut bacterial to break it down," said Theodor.

"That is a strategy that only works if you are relatively big. If you are small the food processes through your gut so fast there is not time to break it down."

Interestingly, scientists also found that he or she who was the "big dog" one day, or era, was not necessarily the biggest in the next.

"It was not the case that say, elephants get big and then elephants are always the biggest mammal on the planet," Theodor said.

"There are times when it is giant rhinos, there are times when in South America it is all kinds of weird things including -- believe it or not -- camels," she said.

"So the role of who is biggest, who is playing that role, changes over time," she said.

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Branson launching digital magazine for iPad



SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) — British tycoon Richard Branson (photo) on Tuesday will unveil a digital magazine tailored for viewing on Apple's popular iPad tablet computers, according to press conference invitations.

Word of Branson's plans to publish "Project" for delivery on iPads came shortly after Australian-born media mogul Rupert Murdoch hinted that his News Corp. empire will soon publish a digital newspaper for the hot Apple gadgets.

'Tunnel of truth' for air travelers is a long way off

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Travelers and transportation screeners alike dream of a day when people will no longer have to spread their legs and lift their arms for intimate pat-downs or see-through body scanners.

Laptops would never have to be taken out of bags, shoes would stay snugly on the feet and yet danger could still be averted by some silent technology that would harmlessly detect bombs and weapons on would-be criminals.

Industry wonks imagine this technology would provide a "tunnel of truth" through which travelers could pass without stopping, unless of course the machines detected some dangerous tool or trace explosive on them.

But that day is a long way off, since none of the new technologies under consideration by the US government provides a way to do a truly

News Corp. has been tight-lipped about the project but 79-year-old Murdoch acknowledged in an interview last week that "The Daily" is in the works.

Branson said in invitations to the press that "Project" themes will include entertainment, travel, business, design, and international culture.

Billionaire entrepreneur Branson owns about half of Virgin Atlantic airline with its aircraft that boast Internet-age amenities such as power outlets at seats and wireless connections to the Web.

He recently said that his Virgin Galactic enterprise is on track to offer commercial space travel within 18 months, and that space hotels are next on the drawing board.

Invitations to the press event in New York City did not indicate whether "Project" would be provided as passenger reading on flights.

complete search of passengers, experts say.

"With all the expense and complication they are doing with these body scanners, they have still not completely deployed something that does comprehensive detection on concealments by people," an industry source told AFP on condition of anonymity.

The current star of the show is the body scanner, which has sparked uproar in the US public over the detailed body images it shows to the people working as screeners in airports.

The US government insists that advanced imaging technology (AIT) -- which uses millimeter wave or backscatter technology to either bounce electromagnetic waves off a person or project mild X-rays -- is safe.

But critics point out it would likely miss explosives hidden in shoes or in body cavities.

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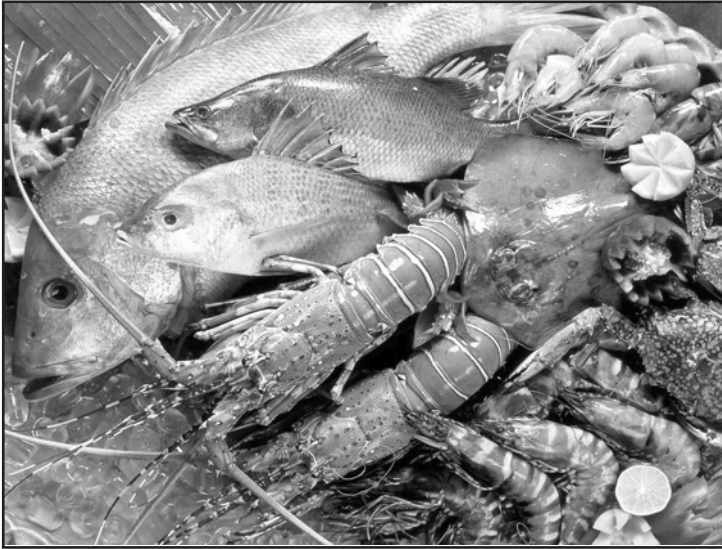
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Health & Living

When is seafood fresh? Fresh seafood shouldn't smell fishy



There are a number of ways one can ensure that seafood is fresh and safe.

A faint sea odor is normal, but fresh seafood should not smell "fishy," according to Kantha Shelke, an Institute of Food Technologists food science expert. Freshly cut fish, peeled crustaceans (shrimp, prawns, rock shrimp, lobster, soft shell crabs) and shucked mollusks (scallops, oysters, clams and mussels) should be moist, not slimy or dry around the edges.

Fresh fish should have clear, well-rounded eyes, not clouded, dry and sunken. The gills should be bright red, not darkened or slimy, and the fish should feel moist and springy instead of mushy, she added.

Fresh prawns, shrimp, lobster, soft shell crabs and rock shrimp should have a uniformly light-colored tail without any discoloration, Shelke said. Mollusks in the shell should be alive and hold tightly to their shells when handled and must come with either a "last sale date" or "date shucked." When buying fresh oysters, look for a natural creamy color within a clear liquid.

It's best to buy fresh seafood the day you're going to eat it. If that isn't possible, properly store it in the fridge or freezer until it is prepared

and cooked. Shelke offered the following storage tips:

Fresh fish, shrimp, scallops, freshwater prawns, and lobster tails can be stored in tightly sealed storage bags or plastic containers and kept on ice in the refrigerator. Using this method, fresh scallops and crustacean tails will keep three to four days and fresh fish will keep five to seven days.

Scallops, crustacean tails and fish can be frozen in water and stored in a freezer for four to six months (0 degrees Fahrenheit or lower). To thaw, leave them in the refrigerator overnight or you can place them under cold, running tap water immediately before you cook them.

Live, hardshell mollusks can remain alive for a week to 10 days stored un-iced in the fridge, kept at 34 to 38 degrees Fahrenheit.

Freshly shucked mollusks can keep for up to 10 days when packed in ice and stored in the refrigerator.

Fresh softshell crabs can be stored up to two days if wrapped in plastic and packed in ice in the fridge. They can keep for up to six months when wrapped in several layers of plastic and stored in a freezer (at 0 degrees Fahrenheit). It is important to thaw these overnight in the refrigerator only.

Experts urge US to stockpile cholera vaccine

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A trio of health experts on Wednesday urged the United States to create a stockpile of vaccines against cholera, which has taken deadly hold in the impoverished and quake-hit Caribbean nation of Haiti.

The gesture could reap high rewards for a relatively low cost, argued the three experts from Harvard Medical School, George Washington University, and the International Vaccine Institute (IVI).

"The costs to the US of creating and maintaining a stockpile of several million doses of cholera vaccine would be low," they wrote in a "perspective" article in the New England Journal of Medicine.

"But the humanitarian benefits of rapid deployment of cholera vaccines to areas at high risk for major cholera outbreaks -- such as earthquake-wracked Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital where 1.3 million people live in unsanitary refugee camps -- could be enormous."

The letter was written by Matthew Waldor of Harvard Medical School, Peter Hotez of George Washington University and John Clemens, who is director of the IVI in South Korea.

Cholera, which causes potentially deadly cases of diarrhea, often strikes in poor countries where there is a high danger of an epidemic due to inadequate sanitation and limited access to clean water.

A sudden outbreak surfaced in Haiti last month and has killed 1,415 people, with around 56,000 infections recorded so far. Health experts say as many as 200,000 more cases could surface in the coming three months.

"If the vaccine were available now, it could still be delivered to as-yet-unaffected parts of Haiti in time to stabilize the country," the experts wrote.

Three vaccines exist to protect against cholera, however manufacturers have fewer than 500,000 total doses on hand, the experts said, "making it impossible to consider large-scale vaccination of at-risk populations."

Clemens argued that this global shortage "reinforces the urgency of creating a stockpile."

Having the drugs on hand could also help Washington "do its part to promote international stability and peace through vaccine diplomacy," the experts said.



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Europe bans baby bottles with Bisphenol-A

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Europe on Thursday banned baby bottles containing the chemical Bisphenol-A as of early next year over fears it may harm the health of children throughout the EU's half a billion population.

Parents across the European Union, the world's biggest open market, "can be sure that as of mid-2011 plastic infant feeding bottles will not include BPA", said John Dalli, commissioner in charge of health and consumer policy. "This is good news for European consumers."

The ban will see the "manufacture of polycarbonate infant feeding bottles with BPA" outlawed from March 1, 2011, and from June 1, 2011, "the placing on the market and the importation into the union of these bottles will be prohibited", the commission underlined in a statement.

Dalli's spokesman Frederic Vincent told AFP that the commission successfully "tried its luck" by bringing forward a proposal originally intended for presentation in early 2011 and seek backing for a ban before a committee of national government experts already scheduled to meet Thursday.

The decision does not re-

quire the approval of the European Parliament, which in any case called in June for such a ban.

"This is the result of months of discussion and exchange of views between the commission's services, the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA), the member states and the industry," a delighted commission added.

Canada became in October the first country in the world to classify Bisphenol-A as a toxic substance despite industry opposition.

Only two EU countries, France and Denmark, had unilaterally imposed bans on baby bottles with the controversial substance. Danish authorities went a step further by extending the prohibition to all food products for children up to three years old.

Bans are also in place in Australia, Canada and a few US states.

EFSA issued in September an opinion by experts on the chemical, which said that Bisphenol-A was safe in very small quantities, but also pointed to areas of uncertainty.

"It cannot be excluded that there might be an effect on the development, immune response or tumour promotion," Dalli said in a statement on October 7.

TIP: If You Have Fructose Intolerance

Fructose is a natural sugar found in many foods, and it's added to many others. Some people have trouble digesting fructose -- a condition called fructose intolerance.

The American Gastroenterological Association suggests how to help manage fructose intolerance:

- * Limit intake of dried fruits, fresh fruits and fruit juices.
- * Limit high fructose corn syrup, found in sodas and other drinks.
- * Keep a food diary, logging what you ate and any symptoms. * This will help determine how much fructose you can safely handle.
- * Limit drinking alcohol.
- * Limit consumption of honey.

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COMICS

PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

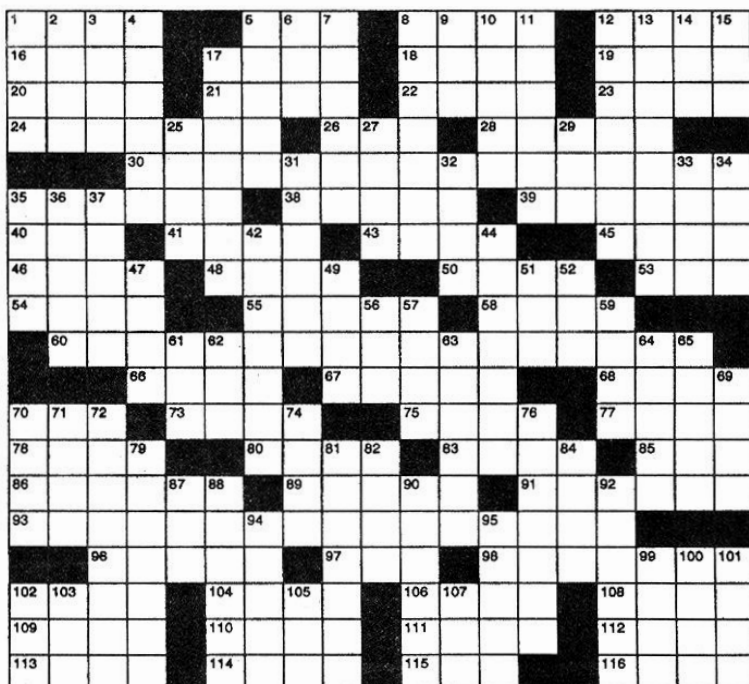
1. Bubbly beverage
5. ____ de la Madeleine (Canada)
8. Baseball's Speaker
12. Federal agent
16. State
17. Surakarta, formerly
18. Rift
19. Descartes
20. Powder
21. Ship's frame
22. Alan or Robert
23. Orient
24. Lou Gehrig's wife
26. Island wreath
28. Singers Calve and Eames
30. Polar TV series?
35. Champs Elysees, e.g.
38. Spiritual one
39. Stowed away
40. Writer Levin
41. Cult
43. River to the Baltic
45. Hawaiian goose
46. Chain of Italian islands
48. ____ bene
50. Slithery swimmers
53. Adams or Ameche
54. Cut of meat
55. Bantu lion
58. Fool
60. Tahitians
66. Oxford or pump
67. Complete
68. Type of shark
70. Downcast
73. ____ von Bismarck
75. Singing ____ Brothers
77. Black, to a bard
78. Catnip or sage
80. Hindu god
83. Otiase
85. California fort
86. Excite
89. Specialized shop
91. Declaims
93. Pioneer TV series
96. Intense look
97. Scion
98. Hears
102. Stew
104. "____ Camera"
106. Hibernia
108. Icy rain
109. Volunteer State: abbr.
110. Stuntman Knievel
111. Circle
112. Anglo-Saxon worker
113. Labels
114. Soaks
115. Wilt
116. Honey drink

DOWN

1. Surfeit
2. Oblong
3. Omit
4. Secret
5. Woo
6. Everyone
7. Flowering plant's product
8. Prepared for the race
9. Kinsman: abbr.
10. Table
11. Pounds
12. Betrayal
13. Surveyed
14. Reply: abbr.
15. Mesh
17. Condense
25. Refusals
27. Hence
29. Maxim
31. Actress McDaniel
32. General Robert ____
33. Splitsville
34. Paradise
35. Window part
36. Melodious ensembles
37. "Talk ____"
42. Pampers
44. Entertained
47. Guilt
49. Amo, amas, ____
51. Chaney of films
52. Chap, in Cornwall
56. Study of life: abbr.
57. Dog of filmdom
59. Gala
61. Yet
62. ____ under the collar (annoyed)
63. Layer
64. Automaton
65. Seed
69. Finales
70. Persian title
71. Of flight
72. Napping
74. Seine tributary
76. Putting on the brakes
79. Fasteners
81. Feudal tenants
82. Tall, in Tijuana
84. Cupid
87. ____ Na Na
88. More mysterious
90. Title holders
92. Patriotic song
94. Use a loom
95. Throw
99. Relax
100. 1492 ship
101. Luge
102. Baseball notable
103. Pasture
105. Convened
107. Inlet

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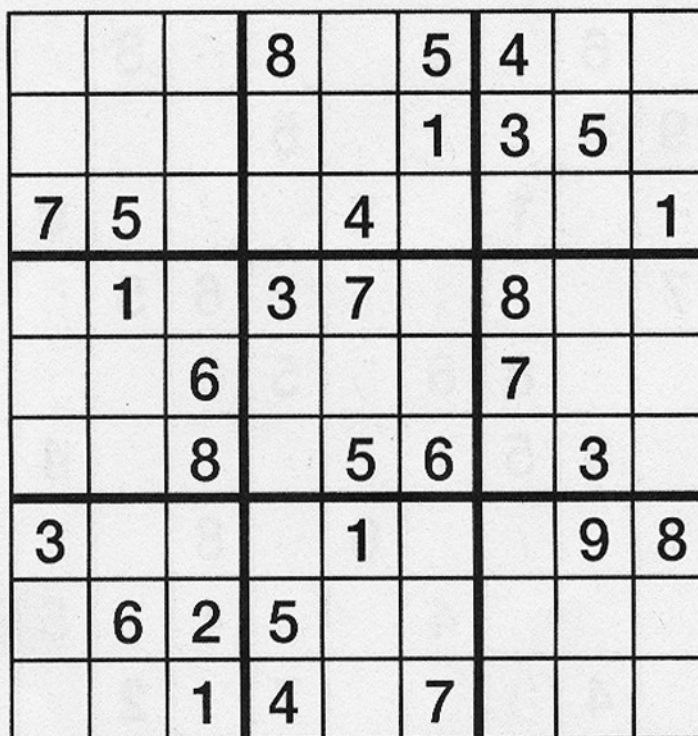
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

8	9	2	7	8	4	1	6	5
7	4	1	6	5	9	2	9	8
8	6	5	2	1	9	7	4	3
4	8	6	9	5	1	8	7	2
9	1	7	8	2	6	9	5	4
9	2	8	4	7	5	9	1	6
1	8	5	6	7	2	6	9	4
2	9	5	1	6	7	4	8	9
6	7	4	9	9	8	5	2	1

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.



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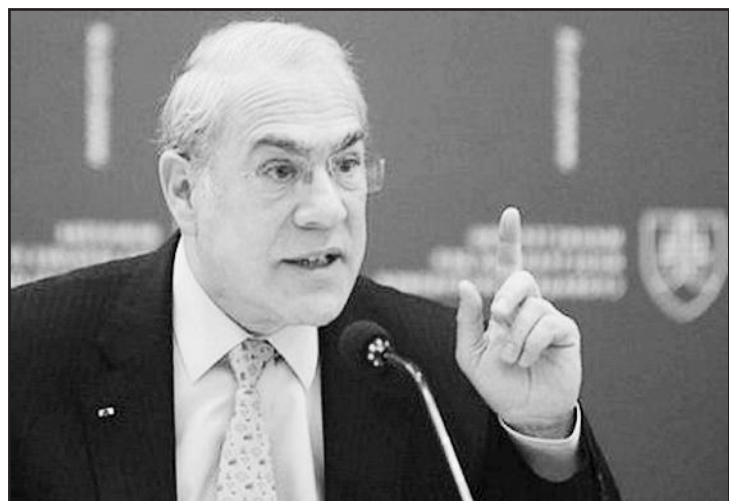
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Finance



ATHENS, Greece -- Greek workers protest in front of the Finance ministry in Athens during a three-hour work stoppage called yesterday by the two main Greek labour unions. Demonstrators protested against the planned government's structural reforms in public and private sectors. Although Greece won approval for a new slice of rescue funding, the IMF and EU prescribed even tougher action on tax evasion, waste in health care and on state companies to merit another payout. (AFP PHOTO)



Secretary-General of the Organisation for European Cooperation and Development (OECD) Angel Gurría speaks during a press conference in Bratislava. The eurozone has a long and productive future ahead of it, the head of the OECD said yesterday in the face of mounting concern for the bloc's financial health. (AFP PHOTO)



A worker climbs atop an advertising billboard for Japanese company Sanyo. Japanese electronics firm Sanyo said it is unable to keep up with huge demand for its new cooker that turns uncooked rice into loaves of bread, forcing it to temporarily halt sales. (AFP PHOTO)

Report: Billion seized from Italy's top pharma giant

ROME, Italy (AFP) - Italian authorities have seized more than one billion euros from top pharmaceutical giant Menarini on suspicion of tax fraud linked to a bank in Liechtenstein, ANSA news agency reported yesterday.

Police have raided the head offices of the company in Florence and prosecutors are investigating 14 people including its chief executive Alberto Aleotti, the report said, quoting financial police officers.

A lawyer for the firm -- Italy's biggest pharmaceutical company and one of the largest in Europe -- rejected the accusations in a statement.

The aim of the fraud was to "inflate the price of pharma-

ceuticals, damaging the national health service, to set up slush funds abroad and to defraud the tax service," one of the investigators was quoted as saying.

The fraud had been going on "for around 20 years," the investigator said, adding that damages to the state had been "far higher" than the one billion euros (1.3 billion dollars) seized by the Florence prosecutor's office.

Among the list of possible crimes being investigated by prosecutors are criminal association, money laundering, aggravated fraud and tax fraud, allegedly carried out between 2004 and 2009, the report said.

The inquiry started after

400 million euros belonging to Menarini were found deposited in a bank in Liechtenstein, it added.

Prosecutors also believe that Menarini falsely increased the value of the imports of pharmaceutical components from China.

But Menarini's lawyer Roberto Cordeiro Guerra said that "all the purchase operations... were carried out at market values."

Menarini employs more than 12,000 people in around 60 countries and had a consolidated turnover of 2.8 billion euros last year.

Menarini's press office could not immediately be reached.

Ghana to start oil production on December 17

ACCRA, Ghana (AFP) - Ghana will start commercial oil production on December 17, a government official announced yesterday, with the recent discovery generating hope as well as warnings against mismanagement.

"We are expecting first oil on December 17," deputy information minister Samuel

Okudzeto Ablakwa told AFP.

"The government and the Jubilee partners are anxiously looking forward to the day," he added, referring to the offshore oil field where the production will occur.

The Jubilee field, discovered in 2007 by US firm Kosmos and operated by Anglo-Irish firm Tullow Oil, is esti-

mated to contain some 1.6 billion barrels of crude, making it one of the largest finds in West Africa in recent years.

It has led to expectations that oil revenue will help the government in Ghana, viewed as among the region's most stable democracies, further grow the economy and finance infrastructure.

But many have also warned of the corruption and mismanagement that have plagued oil-producing countries such as nearby Nigeria.

Lawmakers have been debating a bill aimed at setting objectives for how oil revenue will be spent.

Tullow said this month that it expected production to reach 50,000 barrels per day before the end of the year.

French government seeks 1 bln euros to pay December wages

PARIS, France (AFP) - The French government yesterday requested one billion euros in emergency credit to cover December's payroll in eight ministries, after underestimating how much money would be required.

The Senate approved 1.14 billion euros (1.5 billion dollars) in emergency spending, of which 930 million euros was earmarked to cover personnel costs, said Jean Arthuis, the head of the Senate's finance committee.

Arthuis said in a statement that he had "strong reservations" over the credit, and warned against spiralling state spending.

The credit would be used to

cover December salaries for thousands of employees in eight ministries including education, defence and interior, and represented a little over one percent of state wage costs, Arthuis said.

The lawmaker said this was the first time the government had made a request of this type to the Senate.

The black hole emerged because fewer people had retired than was forecast, she said.

Replacing only 50 percent of retiring bureaucrats is one of President Nicolas Sarkozy's key measures to reduce France's chronic overspending.

The French budget has not been in balance for more than 30 years.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

HARD	GRAB	LAMA	OMIT
OBOE	RAIL	AMEN	DIRE
PELT	EIDERDOWN	ERIE	
STEERED	AYES	OBSESS	
SON	WREN	LYES	
CRATE	TIES	BOILABLE	
HUBS	BOND	PRINT	EON
AND	FORE	FLING	FEND
REUNION	CLAMS	CAKES	
CABS	BEANS	CORE	
ANTIS	CLAWS	HAMMERS	
FOIL	CLASS	TAPE	PIE
ADO	AROSE	ARMS	BEST
RENEGADE	RUES	BORES	
GUNS	BACK	MAR	
WARREN	PINT	Paddock	
EPEE	IDENTICAL	EVEN	
AILS	EASE	OUST	RUDE
NAYS	SNOW	NETS	SMEE

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Garbage exhibition opens in Romanian shopping mall



A woman admires the artworks at The Waste Museum

BUCHAREST, Romania (AFP) – An exhibition made up of garbage has opened in a huge shopping mall in Romania's capital in an attempt to alert the public to the impact of consumerism on the environment, organisers said.

"This is a parable teaching visitors that everything they see in this shopping center, from the smallest to the biggest objects and from the most desirable to the most useful ones, will turn into trash," Ilie Brie, head of a local sustainable development group, told AFP.

"One must remember that every single gesture, every single wish to buy something generates rubbish and then someone else must find a way to deal with it."

From old TV sets and computers to used bulbs and plastic bags, the exhibits illustrate the path from garbage collection to recycling.

Artworks including sculptures and pieces of furniture made of beer cans and bottle caps are also on show.

In a country where protecting the environment is hardly a priority, organisers have created several sets showing forests and beaches littered with garbage left behind by picnicking tourists.

In September, the environment ministry and several NGOs organized a "national housekeeping day" during which volunteers cleaned up fields, forests and rivers, filling up 550,000 large waste bags.



Old appliances on display

Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals--



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a

very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive

land life. All homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a



amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

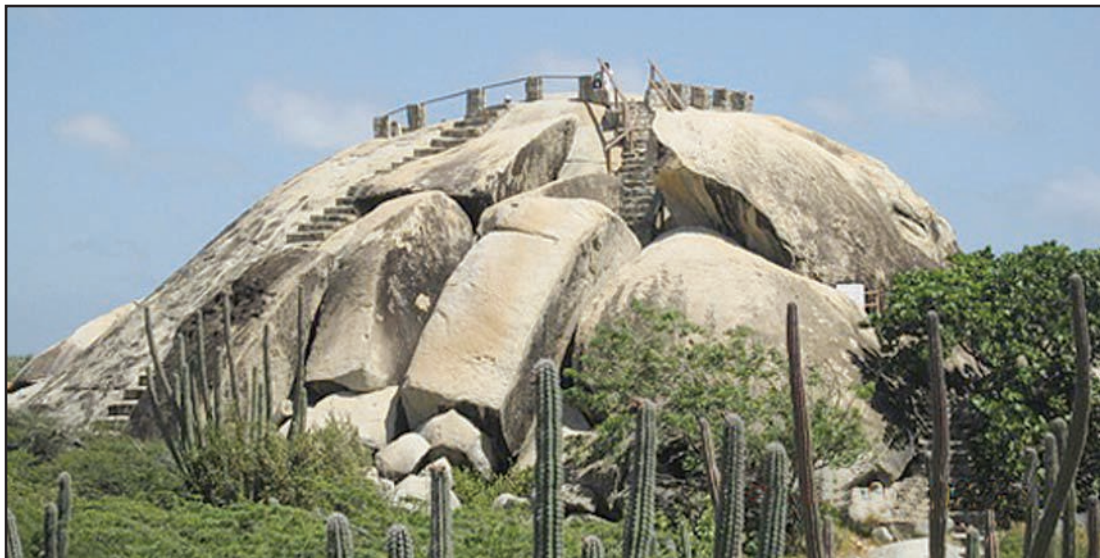
Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the is-

modest fee. Concierge services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



BACK THEN



How far back then is back then? The amazing rock formations at Casibari and Ayo cannot answer the question because there is still too little known about how they got there. Geologists agree that the two large groupings of the massive grey stones are made of diorite and quartzite and may be, and only may be, remnants of an ancient batholith, a dome of igneous rock extending inwards to an unknown depth, which is the core of the island. If so, when? If not, how?

Casibari is a photographer's delight, a child's frolic, a geologist's puzzle and a nature lover's pleasure. One can climb to the top, alongside and through a pathway in a grove of boulders where there are sweeping views of the island. To the southwest is Hooiberg;

a mountain if you live on flat land like Aruba, or a hill if you come from the mountains. It is also unique geographically because it is made up of magnetic rock containing augite crystals.



Or one can wander about the rock garden and wonder at the shapes of stone; some look like prehistoric birds, another a remarkable bear, and others that need only a tiny bit of imagination to name them. Some of the rocks invite you to sit and other groups that look so planned that one has to question whether Mother Nature did it alone. Although questioning Mother Nature is never wise, consider other wonders of the

world.

Were the pyramids in Egypt built under water as a theory now proclaims? Who designed the pyramids in Mexico?

Muse about Stonehenge in England, Machu Pichu in Peru, the massive stone figures on Easter Island. The Casibari and Ayo rock formations seem just tossed about, but are they? Were they all planned by mankind or Mother Nature or by another unknown factor?

At Ayo, there are indian drawings left for our enjoyment by the Arawak Indians, Aruba's first human inhabitants, who would visit the rocks to hear incoming thunderstorms to thus notify and prepare the population of their approach. Ayo's boulders are

considered "oversized"; there is one often described as a giant walrus with its mouth wide open as it to swallow up all of the gawking visitors. After a small climb of steps into the insides of the walrus, one must be prepared for a sight unseen elsewhere.

The other side of the formation, on the left, boasts a shaped stone that is said to resemble a hollow Buddha figure; on the right a Madonna-like figure.

Science and imagination are a perfect fit at Casibari and Ayo. So much on a just a dot on the world map.

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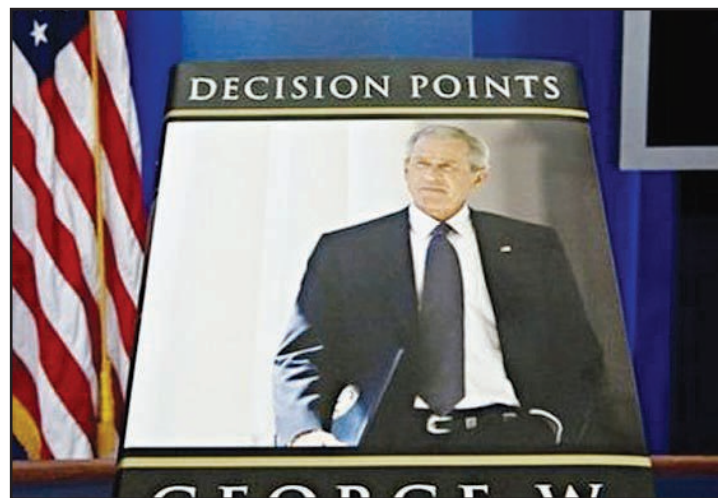
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George W. Bush memoir sells more than one million copies



NEW YORK CITY – More than 1.1 million copies of former President George W. Bush's memoir, "Decision Points," have been sold since its release earlier this month, his publisher said on Wednesday.

More than 135,000 e-books were bought, and copies in print now number around 2.1 million, Crown publishers said.

Since "Decision Points" hit bookshelves on November 9, Bush has been making rounds of the media to promote it. He has joked with Oprah Winfrey that he was "through with po-

litics."

"A lot of people didn't think I could read, much less write," Bush cracked about the book to Winfrey.

His appearance on U.S. morning chat show "Today" resurrected old animosity about his administration's handling of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and he has defended the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, faulty intelligence that the former Iraqi government possessed weapons of mass destruction and his administration's handling of the financial crisis.



Former President George W. Bush talks to a book store customer while signing a copy of his book.

Injured champ Williams pulls out of Australian Open



MELBOURNE (AFP) — Two-time defending champion Serena Williams pulled out of January's Australian Open on Thursday as she continues her lengthy recovery from a freak foot injury.

The US star said she suffered "further injury and damage" after returning to intense training following the second operation on her foot, which she cut on broken glass in a Munich restaurant in July.

"As I continue to rehabilitate my foot after the second surgery last month, it is with the utmost regret that I am withdrawing from the Hop-

man Cup and the 2011 Australian Open Championships," she said in a statement.

"As I recently learned, pushing myself back into my intense training too early only caused me further injury and damage.

"While I desperately want to be back on the court and competing in the first Grand Slam tournament of the year, it is imperative for my health that I continue to work with my doctors to ensure my foot heals properly."

Williams, a 13-time Grand Slam champion, sealed her fifth Australian Open title last

January, beating Belgium's Justine Henin in the final.

The 29-year-old was earlier forced to acknowledge she would miss the rest of this season because of the injury, which she suffered shortly after sealing her fourth Wimbledon title.

"This decision, though heavy on my heart, is the right one," Williams said.

"I am praying for a healthy recovery and I promise my Aussie fans and my fans around the world that I will be back better than ever as soon as I can be."

Magic add to Miami NBA misery

ORLANDO, Florida (AFP) — Dwight Howard scored 24 points and J.J. Redick added 20 as a replacement for injured Vince Carter to power the Orlando Magic past the Miami Heat 104-95 in a Wednesday matchup of NBA rivals.

Two-time NBA Most Valuable Player LeBron James scored 25 points while Chris Bosh fought off back spasms to produce 21 points and Dwyane Wade added 18, but the star-studded Heat suffered a third loss in a row, falling to 8-7 overall.

"It will (get better) eventually," Wade said. "Right now it's not. I wish I had the answer to it."

Even US President Barack Obama is paying attention to

the troubles of the Heat, saying in an ABC television interview that after adding James and Bosh in July the team will need time to blend new talent into a contender.

"It takes some time for the team to come together," Obama said. "There's no 'I' in team. So no matter how good a player is, no matter how good a group of players are, if they haven't played together before they are not going to be as good as a team that has played together a long time."

Magic coach Stan Van Gundy was hoping Obama was paying more attention to fighting unemployment and reviving the economy than in Heat coach Erik Spoelstra's troubles handling the star-

studded but injury-riddled Miami lineup.

"I know there's a lot of time in the day, but I'd be more confident if he didn't know what was going on in the NBA. We got to get some people back to work," Van Gundy said with a laugh.

"I don't think he needs to be worried about turning the Heat around. Let Erik worry about that because Erik certainly isn't turning the economy around."

Spoelstra isn't turning around the Heat at the moment either.

"We're going through a tough time right now. There's no question about it," Spoelstra said.

The Magic also had 18 rebounds from Brandon Bass and 17 points from Jameer Nelson, 11 of them in the fourth quarter. Nelson also had a career-high 14 assists.

Orlando improved to 10-4, best in the Southeast division and one win behind Boston for the top mark in the Eastern Conference, and avenged a 26-point loss at Miami earlier this season.

Café the Plaza's 17th annual Golf Tourney is coming up



Golfers have been looking forward to it the entire year, but now the time is here: the Plaza Golf Open 2010 is here.

Held on Saturday, November 27, this fun golf event will see its shotgun start at 12.30 hrs. at the fantastic Tierra del Sol golf course. The format is a two-men scramble and the expectation is that between 40 and 50 teams will register.

"This is not a tournament of big prizes, it is all about having fun," says Hans Nooter, avid golfer and co-owner of sponsor of the golf event Café the Plaza in the Renaissance Marketplace.

After playing 18 holes, the tired golfers are expected at Café the Plaza for a reviving buffet and a few drinks. They can expect an excellent buffet complete with a salad bar before the prizes are handed out. Prizes will be given out to

the best three teams, for the Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin winners.

Registration for the tournament is possible until Friday afternoon at Tierra del Sol at 586-7800 with golf pro Adam Williams.

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Pats rout Lions 45-24 on Thanksgiving



Maurice Morris #28 of the Detroit Lions scores on a one yard run in the second quarter to give the Lions a 14-3 lead over the New England Patriots at Ford Field during the Thanksgiving game, in Detroit, Michigan. The Lions went on to lose the game 45-24.

CONMEBOL to vote for Spain-Portugal bid

ASUN-CION0 (AFP) - The South American representatives on FIFA's executive committee will vote for Spain and Portugal's joint bid to co-host the 2018 World Cup, a high-ranking confederation official confirmed on Thursday.

"We're going to give our votes to Spain. There's not the smallest doubt," said Eduardo Deluca, general secretary of the South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL), at the draw for the Copa Libertadores.

"Spain is the mother country of the South Americans and we have a more than friendly relationship with the president of the Spanish federation (Angel Maria Villar). He's a brother to us.

"When we go to Spain, as South Americans we feel like we're at home."

FIFA's executive committee will decide which countries will host the 2018 and 2022 World Cups at a summit in Zurich, Switzerland on December 2.

Spain-Portugal are competing with England, Russia and another joint bid from Belgium and the Netherlands for the right to host the 2018 edition.

The three CONMEBOL representatives on the executive committee are Ricardo Teixeira, the president of the Brazilian Football Federation, his Argentine counterpart Julio Grondona and confederation president Nicolas Leoz.

US star Lomong aims to inspire Sudanese kids

NAIROBI0 (AFP) - Sudan-born American track star Lopez Lomong plans to train in Kenya ahead of the 2012 London Olympics in a bid to encourage Sudanese kids to take up running as a career.

The former "Lost Boy", who spent over a decade in a Kenyan refugee camp before being relocated to the United States, where he took up citizenship in 2007, said his success as a top-class athlete should serve as an inspiration for the many Sudanese children living in Kenya to make a career from running.

"I would like to be able to change the attitude of Sudanese living in Kenya. They have to see athletics as a new opening to earn a living. Un-

like Kenya, my country has no running culture," said Lomong, who is in Kenya to attend a Sudanese conference, to discuss peace, leadership and change in the war-torn African country.

"I want to be a role model for the young kids to maximise their talents," he added.

He said he considered Kenya his second home and he planned to hold his pre-Olympic training in the East African nation after next summer's World championships in Daegu, South Korea in September 2011.

The 25-year-old runner, a flag-bearer of the US team in the 2008 Beijing Olympics, plans to compete in the men's 1500m in London.

Federer sinks Soderling to clinch semi-final spot

LONDON (AFP) - Roger Federer sealed his place in the semi-finals of the ATP World Tour Finals with a 7-6 (7/5), 6-3 victory over Swedish fourth seed Robin Soderling on Thursday.

Federer will top Group B after producing his third dominant display at this year's prestigious end-of-season event at London's O2 Arena.

The world number two's victory also means Andy Murray can book his spot in the last four by beating David Ferrer later on Thursday.

Soderling has no hope of qualifying due to the tournament's complex rules involving the percentage of games won by each player.

Federer, bidding to win the title for the fifth time, said: "I'm happy I was able to come out and play a good, tough, solid match against a player who I thought was in good shape.

"I purposely didn't want to know the calculations before the match. Last year that played on my mind a little bit.

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Contador hopes for speedy end to doping case

MADRID (AFP) - Triple Tour de France winner Alberto Contador said on Thursday that he was hoping his doping case would be concluded before the end of the year.

"I have no doubts because at no moment have I done anything improper," the Spaniard told Spanish television channel Teleduarte.

"I'd like there to be a solution between now and the end of the year."

Contador emerged from this year's Tour de France with a third yellow jersey to add to his crowns from 2007 and 2009, bolstering his image as stage racing's man of the moment. He also won the Tours of Spain and Italy in 2008.

In September, however, the International Cycling Union (UCI) provisionally suspended the 27-year-old after trace amounts of clenbuterol, a banned weight loss/muscle-building drug that is also used to fatten cattle, were found in a urine sample taken during the three-week epic.



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Murray makes semis after crushing Ferrer

LONDON (AFP) - Andy Murray stormed into the semi-finals of the ATP World Tour Finals with a crushing 6-2, 6-2 win against Spanish seventh seed David Ferrer on Thursday.

Murray knew from bitter experience that the complex nature of the round-robin system at the prestigious end-of-year event could prove treacherous.

The British number one was eliminated in the group stages here at London's O2 Arena last year despite winning two of his three matches because overall he had won one game less than Juan Martin Del Potro.

But this time the maths were in Murray's favour as Roger Federer's straight sets win over Robin Soderling earlier on Thursday eased his path to the last four.

Federer had clinched his place on top of Group B with that win and, as a result, Murray walked onto court aware that he needed only one set to book his place in the last four.

He achieved that aim comfortably and was in complete control as he wrapped up the win in just one hour and nine minutes.

Murray hopes to face world number one Rafael Nadal in Saturday's semi-finals and he said: "I knew be-



fore I needed to win one set and David needed to win comfortably so it was quite a strange position to be in.

"David started well but I returned well to get myself back into it.

"It feels great to be in the semis in London. They've put on an unbelievable tournament here and it's been almost packed every match.

"I'd like to play against Rafael Nadal in the semi-finals on Saturday."

Ferrer added: "Andy started a little bit nervously but after that he played really good.

"I don't think I was focused. I had a lot of problems physically and mentality.

After demolishing Soderling in impressive fashion in his opening match, Murray cut a forlorn figure as he was out-classed by Federer on

Tuesday.

It briefly seemed he would stumble again as Ferrer, who had beaten Murray in their two meetings this year in Rome and Madrid, broke for a 2-0 lead after the home favourite tamely netted a backhand.

But Murray hit straight back in the next game as he converted the third of three break points with a ferocious backhand down the line.

His tentative start was soon a distant memory. Murray produced some breathtaking tennis and he broke again in the fifth game thanks to a well-timed foray to the net that ended with a volleyed winner.

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